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7 FEB 1973

6 February 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director for Support  
THROUGH : Chief, Historical Staff *W.D.*  
FROM : Support Services Historical Officer  
REFERENCES : 1) Memo from Harry B. Fisher for DDS,  
3 Jan 73, sub: History of Missing  
Persons  
25X1A 2) Memo from [REDACTED]  
25X1A via Mr. Wattles and [REDACTED] 22 Jan  
25X1A 73, sub: OP Missing Persons History  
3) Notes from [REDACTED] (23 Jan 73) and  
Mr. Wattles (24 Jan 73)

25X1A 1. Judging from the recent comments of Messrs.  
Wattles and [REDACTED] (see refs. 2 and 3, above), it appears  
25X1A that work on the history of Missing Persons is about to be  
suspended. I have reviewed the situation with regard to the  
MIA history with [REDACTED], Chief of the CIA Historical  
25X1A Staff; and as a result both of those discussions and of  
President Nixon's 31 January 1973 press conference -- in which  
25X1A the President revealed [REDACTED] CIA affiliation -- we would  
like to recommend that the history in question be revised by  
former Office of Personnel employee, [REDACTED] Mr.  
25X1A Fisher's memorandum for the DDS of 3 January 1973 (ref. 1, above)  
suggested the possibility of engaging [REDACTED] as a contract  
annuitant.

25X1A 2. We would like to suggest further, however, that  
the paper now be revised to reflect the Agency-wide experience  
with MIA personnel and not be limited to the more parochial  
viewpoint of Benefits and Services Division of the Office of  
Personnel. Because of [REDACTED] previous historical efforts,  
we know that he is well qualified to undertake the task.

25X1A 3. Although we think that Mr. Wattles' comment to the  
effect that there should be two separate histories -- one on  
Agency action and another on the MIA's themselves -- overstated  
the case, we do understand his point of view; and, consequently,  
we have drafted a tentative outline as a point of departure for  
[REDACTED] revision. We suggest that the history basically  
emphasize the evolution of MIA policies, but this cannot be done

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without considerable focus on the [REDACTED] story since it was their incarceration that precipitated much of the policy.

25X1A 4. With or without President Nixon's recent revelation regarding [REDACTED] I had already stated my belief that the data obtained from [REDACTED] subsequent to his release should be made a vital part of the history (ref. 1, above); and certainly OP's reluctance to put pen to paper on this situation for fear of jeopardizing [REDACTED] now appears to have 25X1A no basis in fact.

5. Moreover, the implication by OP that there is more risk of security compromise occurring through publication of an authorized history than from any other source is not only unjust, but it negates one of the basic concepts of the Agency's historical effort -- that the organized and written history can be of current value to Agency planners and managers. Whether this record will, indeed, result in modification of any programs or change anyone's ideas is another matter. At least the record will be available for study and contemplation.

6. It should also be noted that other components ( in all Directorates, including the DDS ) have already published histories which have incorporated materials equally as sensitive as that in question for the MIA history.

25X1A 7. In any event it is the opinion of the Historical Staff that work on the MIA history should be continued at this time; and, as previously noted, we would be very pleased if the task were to be given to [REDACTED]

25X1A

Att. [REDACTED]

Distrib:

25X1A O&l - Adse  
1 - ChHS  
1 - HFisher  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - JBP  
1 - Chron

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A TENTATIVE OUTLINE FOR AN AGENCY-WIDE HISTORY ON  
MISSING IN ACTION: POLICIES AND PERSONNEL

- I. Antecedents to an Agency MIA policy, OSS to CIA
  - A. Provide the basic data on numbers of personnel involved, geographic areas concerned, and something of the nature of the actions which led to capture or loss of personnel
  - B. Discuss the institutional (OSS, CIG, or other) approach to the problem
    1. What, if any, formal machinery was initiated?
    2. Where did Agency action relate to other USG activity in the field, particularly DOD/State?
    3. Which, if any, permanent policies or bodies evolved as a result of these experiences?
- II. Evolution of Agency policy since 1952
  - A. Provide basic data similar to that requested for I, A, above.
  - B. Setting the Agency machinery in motion
    1. Establishing responsibility
      - a. Fiat
      - b. Default
      - c. Covert-overt problems
      - d. Authorities -- specified or implied
    2. Inter-Agency relationships
      - a. DOD
      - b. State
      - c. Other USG
  - C. Managerial decisions and policy making re MIAs
    1. Public relations posture
    2. Human relations -- next of kin
      - a. Fiscal/financial problems
      - b. Insurance
      - c. Social problems -- wives, children, mothers
      - d. Progress reporting
    3. Official machinery for negotiations concerning welfare, release, communications, etc. with MIAs
  - D. Evaluation of Agency policy and/or machinery
    1. By Inspector General
    2. By USIB or other USG
    3. Other

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III. The principal cases

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A. [REDACTED]

1. Background and capture
2. Official Agency position
3. Human relations problems
4. Intra-Agency interest and activities on behalf of MIA's [REDACTED]

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B. Francis Gary Powers  
(1-3 as above)

C. Captives [REDACTED]  
(1-3 as above)

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IV. [REDACTED] return

- A. His expectations
- B. His reactions
- C. His suggestions

V. Conclusions

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